CHAPTER LVI: THE SETTING SUN

WHY'S KALDAN BEING SENT OUT AGAIN...?!

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WHAT'S GOING ON?!

MY VERY LIFE ON THIS!

I'LL RISK...

AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF FIGHTING I CAN'T POSTPONE THINGS ANY LONGER.

I'M WELL AWARE THAT MY FIGHTING ABILITY IS WORSENING...

IF I LET THIS CHANCE SLIP BY, I MAY NEVER GET ANOTHER SHOT AT FREEDOM.

THE END

CLUNK.

ALL OF THEM OUTRIGHT KILLS!

WE TRADE IN PERFECT VICTORIES FROM PERFECT FIGHTS AFTER ALL.

THAT IS, A TOTAL OF 112 WINS UNDEF-EATED.

HE HAS FOUGHT 88 INDIVIDUALS, 11 MOUNTED OPPONENTS, FOUR ON VEHICLES AND NINE BEASTS.

THESE ARE HIS EXPLOITS IN BATTLE...!

THIS IS INSANE! YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT...

...!

I AM THE GRAND MASTER OF CERBERUS. THE DARK ENVOY, THANATOS!

I SEE...

YOU WOULDN'T WANNA KILL AN UNARMED ENEMY WOULD YOU.

!

SO THEIR BOSS IS THANATOS, THE GOD OF DEATH EH. THIS IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.

...

I COMMEND YOUR BRAVERY. NOW, EXHAUST YOUR FIGHTING SKILLS, AS I SEND YOU TO THE UNDERWORLD!

JUST GIVE ME A SWORD.

WHAT WONDERFUL CONSIDERATION...

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THIS IS THE ONLY MEANS OF SURVIVAL WHICH I HAVE...

EH?

EVEN I MAY WELL HAVE TRIED TO SECURE A BLADE THOUGH...

NO.

DOES HE THINK HE CAN WIN AGAINST HIS OPPONENT WITH A SWORD, MASTER?

DO WHAT YOU CAN!

THUMP.

THUMP.

THUMP.

THUMP.

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THIS MATCH IS A MASSIVE GAMBLE FOR HIM. THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN SEIZE VICTORY IF HE DOESN'T BOX.

JUST WHAT IS HE AFTER. IF I HAD TO GUESS...

COME WITHOUT FEAR!

BEGIN!

NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE MAY HAVE HONED HIS SKILLS, HE'S STILL HUMAN.

DON'T HESITATE.

TAKING HIM TO BE A PURE BLADE USER...

COME AN EMERGENCY, HE MIGHT HOLD A CERTAIN BLIND POINT.

MY CHANCE OF VICTORY IS THAT ONE SPOT!

YOUR LIFESPAN COULD SHORTEN FROM THAT BLOODLUST ALONE.

HE THREW IT!

GOT YOU!

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GUH...

LEVEL 1000

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KAL-
DAN!

BUT I MUST COMMEND YOU FOR EVEN MANAGING TO LAND A BLOW UPON ME.

IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A CLUMSY SURPRISE ATTACK...

HOWEVER, HE FAILED TO PROPERLY CONSIDER THE UNIQUE NATURE OF HIS OPPONENT'S WEAPON!

HIS PLAN WAS NOT NECES-SARILY BAD...

IT'S OVER...

IN THAT MOMENT, THERE WAS A CHINK IN HIS ARMOUR, BUT...!

I ALWAYS MESS IT UP AT THE END...

SO THIS IS IT...

THAT WAS A DIRTY MATCH!

YOU'RE A COWARD!

!

STOP IIIT! DON'T KILL HIM!

CESTVS...

IT WOULD'VE BEEN FAIRER IF YOU'D FOUGHT HAND TO HAND!

W... WELL, WASN'T IT UNFAIR?!

STOP IT IDIOT!

I CANNOT OVER-LOOK THAT, BOY.

CLICK.

THIS WAS A MOST JUST FIGHT.

BOTH PARTIES CONSENTED TO BEARING BLADES. THERE WAS NO NEED FOR HAND TO HAND COMBAT.

HE ACTED OF HIS OWN VOLITION.

HE HIMSELF CHOSE TO CAST AWAY HIS BLADE MID FIGHT.

I MADE A LARGE GAMBLE, AND LOST, CESTVS...

IT'S AS HE SAYS...

IF YOU GAMBLE YOUR LIFE, DEFEAT MEANS DEATH.

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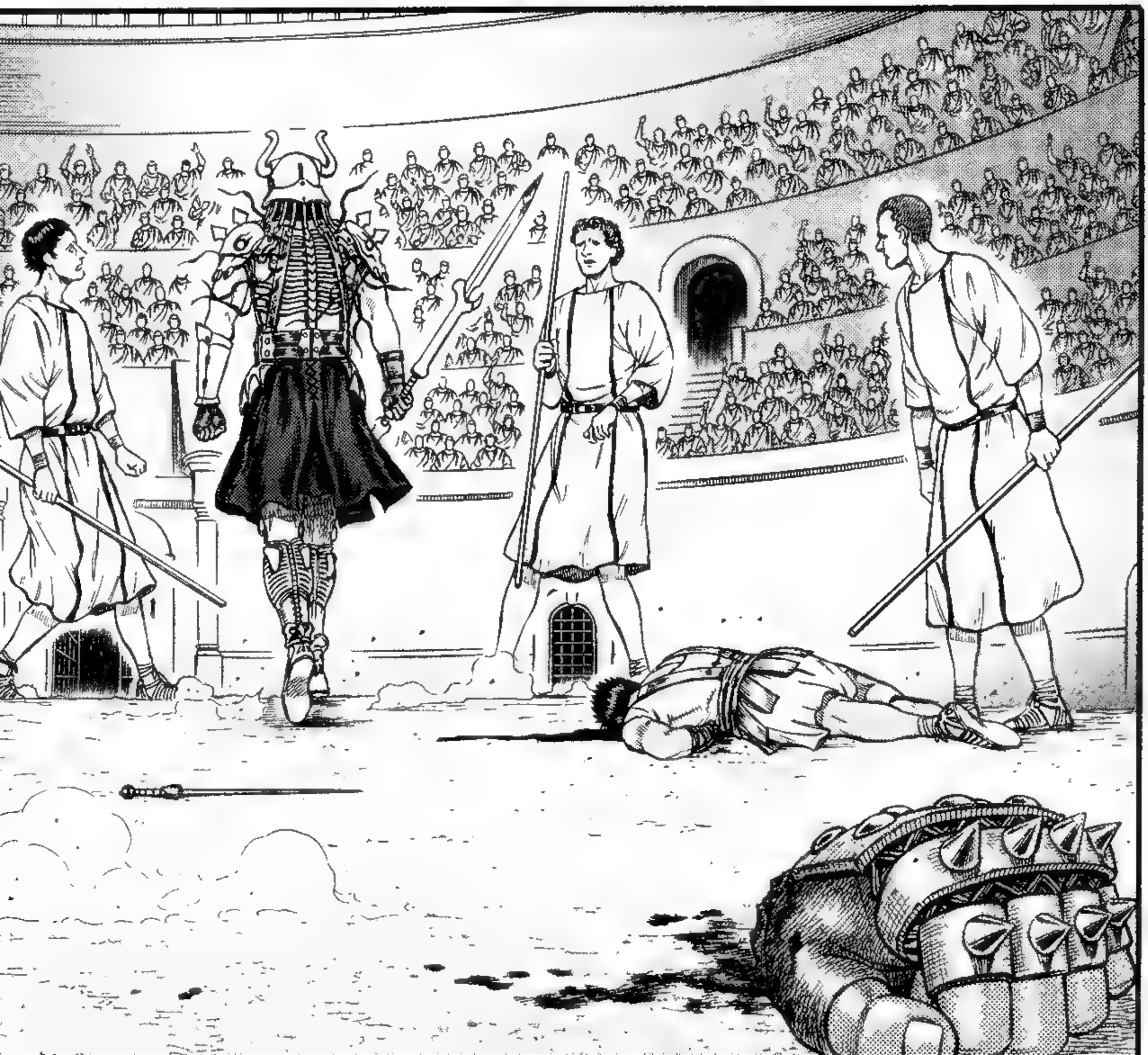


AS THOUGH HURRYING BACK TO THE REALM OF THE DEAD...

UPON A BLOODY TIDE THEY SET OUT TO THE RED SEA...

YET BEFORE NYX COULD CALL, CERBERUS HAD DEPARTED FROM THE PORT...

COME EVENING, HELIOS SET IN THE WEST...

WHEN HE STARED AT ME IT TRULY FELT AS THOUGH HE WAS PLUCKING AT MY SOUL!

THEY WERE TERRI-FYING.

THEY WERE. I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA SHIT MYSELF...

SATISFIED WITH THEIR BRIEF MOMENT OF PLEASURE, THE CITY FOLK RETURNED TO THEIR EVERYDAY BUSINESS.

THE WORLD'S TRULY VAST...

THEY WERE SO DISCONNECTED FROM REALITY. TO THINK SUCH GLADIATORS COULD ACTUALLY EXIST...

THE DEATH OF A SINGLE SLAVE BOXER, AMONGST A FEW OTHERS...

WAS A MATTER QUICKLY FORGOTTEN.

WERE HE TO HAVE FOUGHT THAT GOD OF DEATH, I DON'T KNOW WHO'D WIN.

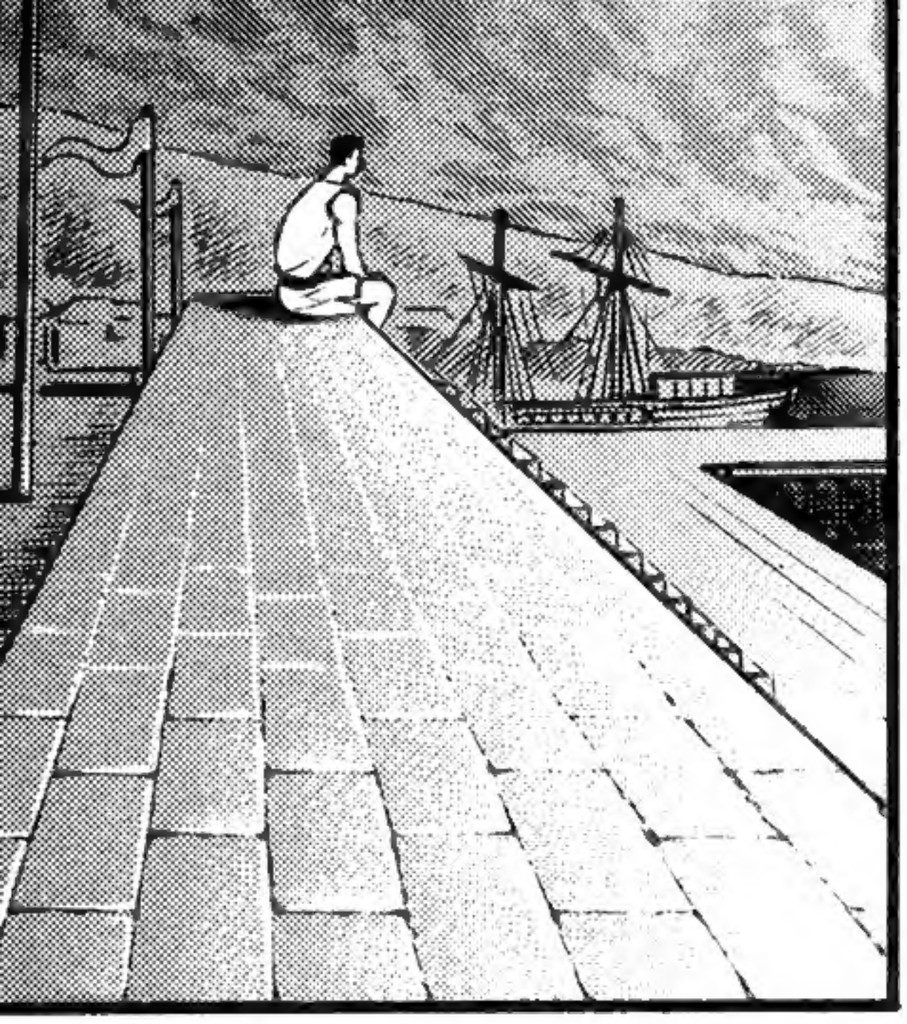
I KNOW A MAN WHO CRUSHED THREE ARMED GLADIATORS BAREHANDED.

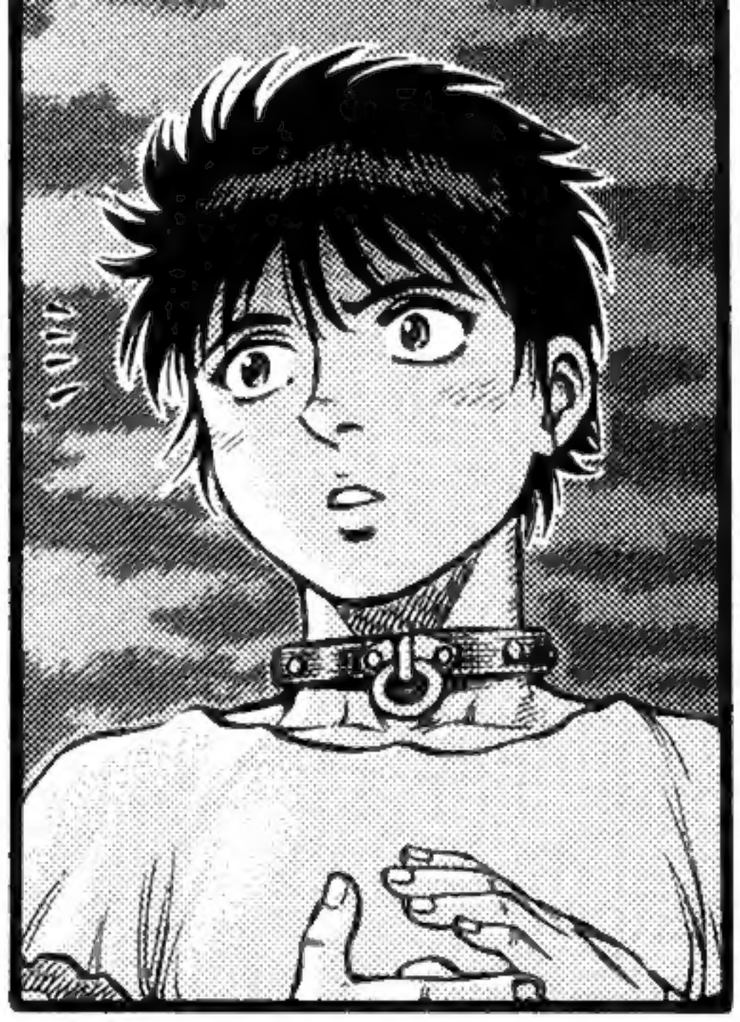
UNLESS YOU SAW IT FIRSTHAND...

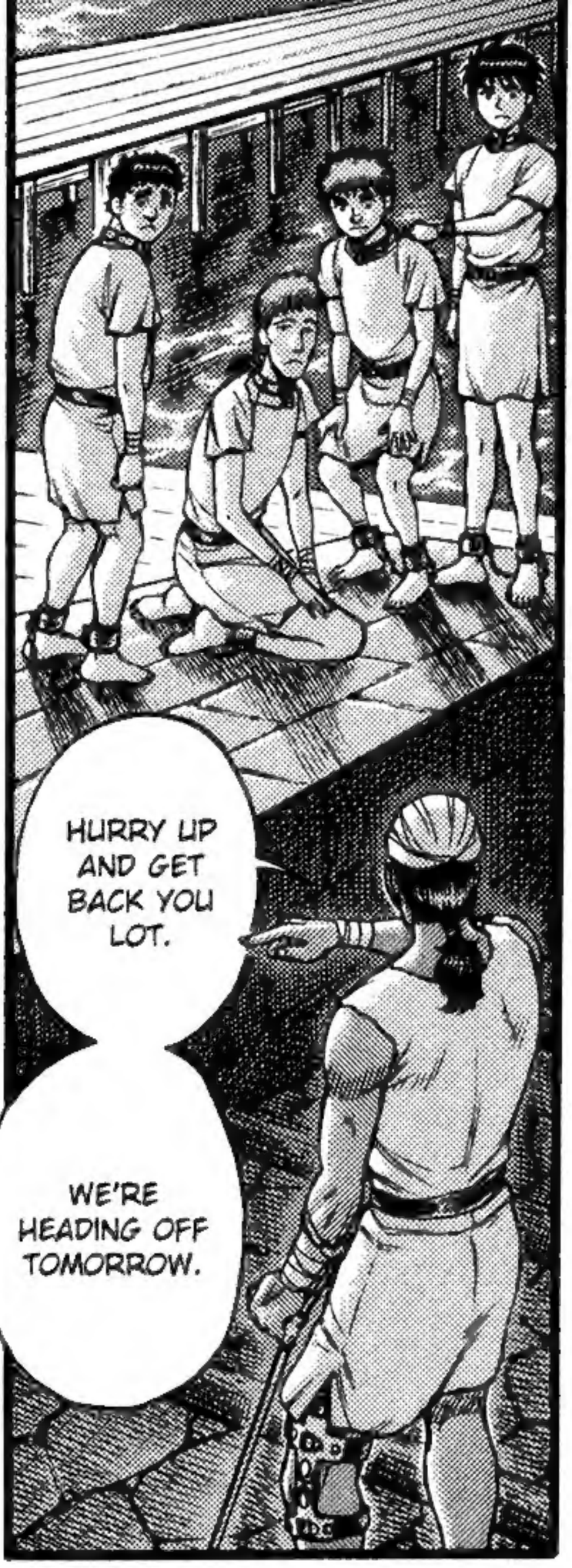
I GUESS YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT...

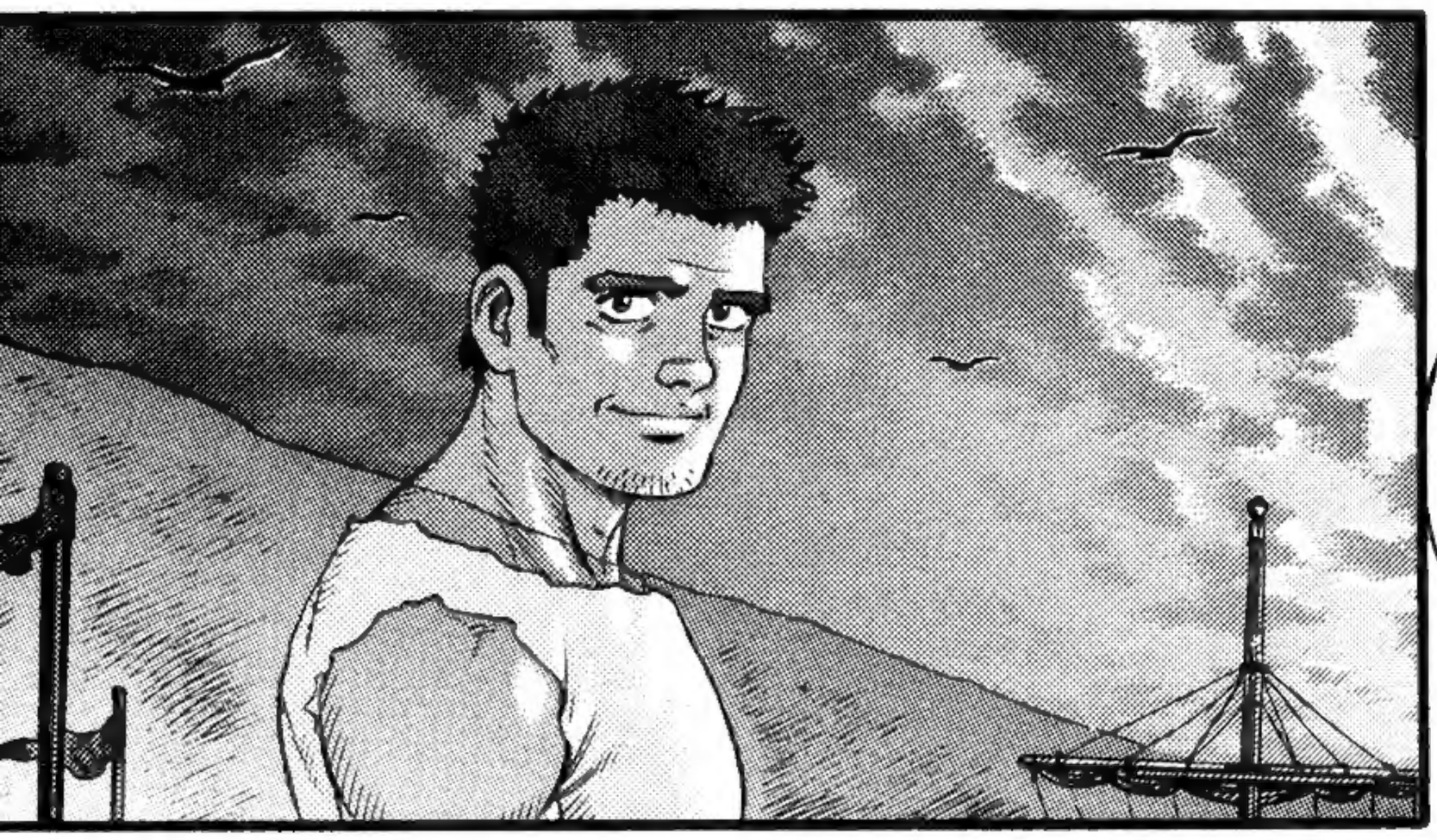
AT LEAST BE MORE REASON-ABLE WHEN YOU TRY AND LIE.

COME ON NOW, WHO'D BELIEVE BULLSHIT LIKE THAT.






HURRY UP AND GET BACK YOU LOT.
WE'RE HEADING OFF TOMORROW.



WHAT'S THE MATTER CESTVS?

...
THAT'S WHAT KALDAN TOLD ME...

IS THE SETTING SUN IN NUMIDIA THE PRETTIEST IN THE WORLD...
MAS-TER...

AAH YES...

IT'S A WONDERFUL SCENE.

SOME DAY I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU IT.